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> LAURENCE E, GOLD ALEXANDER W. DEMOTS Of Coursel

**September 21, 2009** 

#### By Hand Delivery

Thomasina Duncan, Esq. General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20463

Re: Matter Under Review 6208

FEDERAL ELECTION.
COMMISSION

2009 SEP 21 PM 3: 47

OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNTSEL

#### Dear Ms. Duncan:

I am writing on behalf of the Laborers' International Union of North America ("LIUNA"), the National Postal Mail Handlers Union — Division of Laborers' Int'l Union of North America (Committee ID: C00345306) (the "Committee"), and Armand Sabitoni, as treasurer of the Committee, in response to the complaint filed by Philip C. Wakeman and the National Right to Work Legal Defense and Education Foundation, Inc. The respondents received notice of the complaint on August 6, 2009. An extension until September 21, 2009 to file this response was granted by the Office of General Counsel on August 12, 2009.

The facts relating to this matter are straightforward and demonstrate that none of the respondents has violated any provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

In 2006 Wakeman prepared a check in the amount of \$429.00 payable to "NPMHU" with a memo entry indicating that the check was for the purpose of "Union Dues". At the time, \$429.00 represented the annual dues for membership in the National Postal Mail Handlers Union. Wakeman's check was deposited into the general treasury account of Local 301, Mail Handlers Union and Wakemen was enrolled as a member of the union.

Under the union's procedures in effect in 2006, Local 301 should have transmitted \$152.10 from its general treasury account to NPMHU as a per capita payment reflecting Wakeman's dues; the remainder of the dues (\$276.90) should have been retained by Local 301. However, Local 301 transmitted the full amount of Wakeman's dues (\$429.00) to NPMHU. (Exhibit A)

Thomasina Duncan, Esq. September 21, 2009 Page 2

NPMHU incorrectly deposited the check representing Wakeman's dues into the Committee's political account, rather than into the national union's general treasury account. (Exhibit B) This receipt was reported by the Committee on Schedule A of its monthly report as a contribution of \$429.00 from Wakeman. (Exhibit C)

The error with respect to the Wakeman dues payment was subsequently discovered during a routine reconciliation of accounts. NPMHU immediately refunded to Local 301 from its general treasury account the portion of the dues (\$276.90) to which the local union was entitled. (Exhibit D)

Although steps were also taken to obtain a refund from the Committee to NPMHU, this transaction did not take place immediately due to an administrative error. After it was realized that the refund had not taken place, further efforts were made and, by check dated November 1, 2007, the Committee refunded the full amount of the erroneous deposit (\$429.00) to NPMHU (Exhibit E), which deposited the refund into its general treasury account. (Exhibit F). The Committee reported the refund as a disbursement on line 29 of its monthly report. (Exhibit G).

While a technical error may have been made when Wakeman's check for his annual dues was deposited into the Committee's political account, respondents made every effort to correct this error when it was discovered. The error was in fact voluntarily corrected more than a year and half before the filing of the complaint in this matter. The Commission should therefore find no reason to believe that a violation occurred or, in view of the small amount involved and the corrective action already taken, exercise its discretion to take no further action with respect to the complaint.

Designation's of Counsel authorizing the undersigned to represent each of respondents are also enclosed.



### FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION 999 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20483

### STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL. Please use one form for each Respondent/Client FAX (202) 119-3923

NAME OF COUNSEL:
ADDRESS: 1666 Connecticut Avenue, IV Suite 500  Washington, DC 20009  TELEPHONE- OFFICE (202 ) 328-1666  FAX (202 ) 328-9162  The above-named individual and/or firm is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.
TELEPHONE- OFFICE (202 ) 328-1666  FAX (202 ) 328-9162  The above-named individual and/or firm is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.
TELEPHONE- OFFICE (202 ) 328-1666  FAX (202 ) 328-9162  The above-named individual and/or firm is hereby designated as my coursel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.
TELEPHONE- OFFICE (202 ) 328-1666  FAX (202 ) 328-9162  The above-named individual and/or firm is hereby designated as my coursel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.
The above-named individual and/or firm is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.
The above-named individual and/or firm is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.
coursel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.
from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.
Date Respondent Otels Signature Title
Date Respondent Otels Signature Title
•
RESPONDENT/OLIENT Armeni E. Sabitoni. Trassurar. (Please Print)
•
MAKING ADDRESS: 905 16th Street. W
•
Washington, DC 20006
TELEPHONE-HOME ( )
BUSINESS ( 202 ) 737-6320
referencetion is body cought as part of an investigation being conducted by the Federal Ricellon Decemberies and the condispitally previous of 2 U.S.O. () 487y(4)(19)(4) apply. This coeffici



### FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION 999 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20468

### STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL Please use one form for each Respondent/Client FAX (202) 219-8928

MUR #_6208
NAME OF COUNSEL: Michael B. Trister
FIRM: Lichtman, Trister & Ross
ADDRESS: 1666 Connecticut Avenue, NY Suite 500
Weshington, DC 20009
TELEPHONE- OFFICE (202 ) 328-1666
FAX ( 202 ) 328-9162
The above-named individual and/or firm is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my baself before the Commission.  Date  Respondent-Client Signature  Title
RESPONDENT/OLIENT_Ishorers' Interestional Union of North America. (Pieces Print)
MAILING ADDRESS: 905 16th Street, MV
Heskington, DC 20006
TELEPHONE-HOME ()
GUGINISOS ( 202 ) 737-8320
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## Exhibit C



### **SCHEDULE A**

### ITEMIZED RECEIPTS All Listed Line Numbers

## Committee: NATIONAL POSTAL MAIL HANDLERS UNION - DIVISION OF LABORERS' INT'L UNION OF NORTH AMERICA

Contributor's Name Contributor's Address	Employer	Date	Amount (3)
	Occupation.	Memo	Aggregate (5)
	Memo/Description	Text	Limits
Mr. Robert P. Losi 54 Milton Avenue Hyde Park, Massachusetts 021363617	NPMHU Local No. 301	01/29/2007	500.00
	President		500.00
Mr. Phillip C. Wakeman 138 Brickine Avenue Manchester, New Hampshire 031045719		01/05/2007	429.00
			429.00

Total Donation Amount (Non-Memo)	
Total Memo Amount	
Number of Transactions (Non-Memo)	2
Number of Transactions (Memo)	9

# Exhibit G



### **SCHEDULE B**

### **ITEMIZED DISBURSEMENTS**

Line #: 29

### Committee: NATIONAL POSTAL MAIL HANDLERS UNION - DIVISION OF LABORERS' INT'L UNION OF NORTH AMERICA

	Election Type	Date of Disbursement
Disbursement To	Extra Description	Amount This Period
	Text	Memo
NPMHU 1101 Connecticut Avenue NW Washington, DC 20036		11/01/2007
	Refund for Admininstrative Error of depo	429.00

Total Disbursement Amount (Non-Mem	(e
Total Memo Amount	
Number of Transactions (Non-Momo)	1
Number of Transactions (Mesne)	0



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